AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A sheathing for a communication cable ~~article~~, comprising:

a first layer of a first material containing a first proportion of a dye admixed with said first material, and bounding a core of said communication cable ~~an interior~~;

a second layer adjacent said first layer and bounding an exterior of said communication cable, said second layer having a marking face adapted to be marked by irradiation with photons, and said second layer being formed of a second material and containing~~, at least inside said marking face,~~ a second proportion of the dye smaller than said first proportion of dye which is admixed with the second material, said second proportion of dye associated with said second layer being selected ~~dimensioned~~ to cause a color change upon irradiation with photons by melting an irradiated region, thereby forming a foamed ~~foamlike~~ CO_2 region that scatters incident light.

2. (original) The sheathing according to claim 1, wherein said second material is one of translucent and transparent for the radiation used for marking.

3. (previously presented) The sheathing according to claim 1, wherein at least one dimension selected from the group consisting of said second proportion of dye associated with said second layer and a thickness of said second layer is adjusted such that said second layer completely absorbs the radiation used for marking.

4. (original) The sheathing according to claim 1, wherein said dye in said first and second layers is carbon material selected from the group consisting of soot and graphite.

5. (currently amended) The sheathing according to claim 4, wherein the proportion of said carbon material in said second layer is in a range from ~~about~~ 0.2 to ~~about~~ 0.8% by weight.

6. (currently amended) The sheathing according to claim 4, wherein the proportion of said carbon material in said second layer is in a range from ~~about~~ 0.2 to ~~about~~ 0.5 % by weight.

7. (currently amended) The sheathing according to claim 3, wherein the thickness of said second layer is in a range from ~~about~~ 0.01 to ~~about~~ 1.0 mm.

8. (currently amended) The sheathing according to claim 7, wherein the thickness of said second layer is in a range from ~~about~~ 0.05 to ~~about~~ 0.2 mm.

9. (currently amended) The sheathing according to claim 4, wherein the proportion of said carbon material in said first layer is in a range from ~~about~~ 1 to ~~about~~ 3% by weight.

10. (original) The sheathing according to claim 1, wherein said first layer and said second layer are formed of the same material.

11. (original) The sheathing according to claim 1, wherein at least one of said first layer and said second layer are formed of a synthetic material selected from the group consisting of thermoplastic material, viscoelastic material, and an elastomer.

12. (original) The sheathing according to claim 1, wherein said first layer and said second layer are one of welded, glued, and joined together by an adhesion promoter.

13. (currently amended) A sheathing article, comprising:
a sheathing separating an interior from an exterior, and having an exterior layer;
said exterior layer being transparent to a radiation used for marking said exterior layer, and containing a proportion of a dye selected from the group consisting of soot and graphite that is admixed with said sheathing; and
~~a dimension~~ a plurality of predetermined characteristics of said exterior layer being selected from the group consisting of a thickness of the exterior layer and the proportion of said dye ~~being~~ selected such that said exterior layer absorbs the radiation used for marking completely, and a color change results within an irradiated region upon irradiation by melting the irradiated region, thereby forming a foamed ~~foamlike~~ CO_2 region that scatters incident light.

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14. (currently amended) The sheathing ~~article~~ according to claim 13, wherein said exterior layer is translucent to the radiation used for the marking.

15. (currently amended) The sheathing ~~article~~ according to claim 13, wherein the proportion of the dye is at least about 0.2 % by weight and at most about 0.8 % by weight.

16. (previously presented) The sheathing according to claim 13, wherein the thickness of said exterior layer is between about 0.01 and about 1.0 mm.

17. (previously presented) The sheathing according to claim 13, wherein the thickness of said exterior layer is between about 0.05 to about 0.2 mm.

18. (original) The sheathing according to claim 13, wherein

said exterior layer is formed of a synthetic material selected from the group consisting of thermoplastic material, viscoelastic material, and an elastomer.

19. (original) The sheathing according to claim 13, wherein said exterior layer has materials selected from the group consisting of stabilizers and aging protectants admixed therewith.

20. (original) The sheathing according to claim 1, wherein at least one of said first and second materials selected from the group consisting of stabilizers and aging protectants admixed therewith.